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INFORMATION **SECRET**

FOREIGN DOCUMENTS OR RADIO BROADCASTS

REPORT

CD NO.

50X1-HUM

COUNTRY USSR

SUBJECT Economic -- Foreign trade

HOW
PUBLISHED Daily newspapers

WHERE PUBLISHED USSR

DATE
PUBLISHED 4-28 January 1949

LANGUAGE .. Russian

DATE OF INFORMATION 1949

DATE DIST. 26 March 1949

NO. OF PAGES 2

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

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SOURCE Soviet newspapers as indicated. (Information requested.)

USSR CONCLUDES 1949 FOREIGN TRADE AGREEMENTS

USSR-HUNGARY -- Sovetskaya Sibir', No 14, 21 Jan 49

Trade agreements for 1949 between the Ministry of Foreign Trade USSR and the Bulgarian Trade Delegation were signed on 18 January. Trade between the USSR and Bulgaria in 1949 will be increased by 20 percent over 1948, excluding the cost of equipment sent by the USSR to Bulgaria under the credit agreements. In 1949, the USSR will send petroleum products, cotton, ferrous and nonferrous metals, machine tools, tractors, automobiles, artificial fertilizer, and other goods to Bulgaria. In return, Bulgaria will send tobacco, lead and zinc concentrates, copper ore, cement and other goods to the USSR.

USSR-137-142 -- Sovetskaya Sibir', No 12, 18 Jan 49

Documents on the reciprocal exchange of goods in 1949 were signed on 15 January as the result of agreements between the Ministry of Foreign Trade USSR and the Polish Trade Delegation. Reciprocal exchange of goods in 1949 is to be increased 35 percent over the yearly exchange provided for in the 5-Year Agreement signed 26 January 1948. The cost to each country will be nearly 715 million rubles, not counting the cost of equipment sent to Poland by the USSR under the Credit Agreement. In 1949, the USSR will send cotton, iron, manganese, chrome, automobiles, tractors, agricultural machinery, petroleum products, chemical products and other goods to Poland. Poland will export coal, railroad rolling stock, nonferrous and ferrous metals, textile products, sugar, and other goods to the USSR.

USSR-RUMANIA -- Sovetskaya Sibir', No 18, 28 Jan 49

Reciprocal Trade Agreements for 1949 were signed on 24 January by the Ministry of Foreign Trade USSR and the Rumanian Trade Delegation. The exchange of goods will increase 2½ times as compared with 1948. Shipping costs in 1949

- 1 -

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will amount to nearly 465 million rubles for each country. The USSR will send industrial equipment, automobiles, metals, agricultural machinery, iron ore, coke, cotton, seed and other goods to Rumania in 1949. The USSR will also take orders for industrial equipment requiring a lengthy period for production, and will provide technical aid in the construction of enterprises and in the production of new types of machines needed by Rumanian industry. Rumania will send petroleum products, lumber, locomotives, railroad cars, barges, chemical goods, meat products, consumer goods, etc., to the USSR.

USSR-YUGOSLAVIA -- Sovetskaya Kirgiziya, No 2, 4 Jan 49

Negotiations between the Ministry of Foreign Trade USSR and the Yugoslav Trade Delegation in Moscow have resulted in a mutual trade agreement for 1949 which was signed on 27 December 1948. In view of the unfriendly policy of the Yugoslav government toward the Soviet Union, which made it impossible to maintain extensive economic cooperation between the USSR and Yugoslavia, the 1949 trade agreement provides that the exchange of goods between the USSR and Yugoslavia will be 8 times less than in 1948.

The Yugoslav Trade Delegation, headed by Popovich, Minister of Foreign Trade of Yugoslavia, left Moscow on 30 December. The delegation was accompanied to the railroad station by I. F. Semichastnov, Vice-Minister of Foreign Trade USSR; I. M. Lebedev, USSR Trade Representative in Yugoslavia; and N. I. Kus'minskiy, Chief of Protocol Section, Ministry of Foreign Trade USSR.

USSR-ALBANIA -- Sovetskaya Sibir', No 13, 19 Jan 49

Tirana -- The Soviet steamship Izhora arrived at Durres (Durazzo) Port carrying a cargo of Soviet goods sent to Albania under the Albanian-Soviet Trade Agreement. Included are trucks, tractors, railroad cars, locomotives, plows, agricultural fertilizer, grain, and other goods. The Izhora is the first Soviet steamship to arrive in Albania in 1949. The last one was the Aleksandr Pushkin, which docked at Durres on 15 December 1948, carrying more than 3,000 tons of various goods.

USSR AID ALBANIAN AGRICULTURE -- Sovetskaya Sibir', No 16, 25 Jan 49

Tirana -- The Albanian Telegraph Agency reports that preparations have been started for the construction in the environs of Tirana of a large-scale cotton combine, which is called for in the Two-Year Plan. All equipment for the combine will be provided by the USSR. The combine will be put into operation in 1951 and will produce 20 million square meters of cloth per year.

Soviet aid has been an important factor in the development of Albanian agriculture. After the arrival of tractors from the USSR, the machine-cultivated sown area increased in 1948 by 190 percent as compared with 1947. New Soviet tractors in 1949 will mean that the machine-cultivated sown area will increase by 50,000 hectares this year as compared with 1948. Nearly 30 percent of the sown area in Albania will be worked with tractors in 1949.

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- 2 -

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